

DELL
COMIC

THE

MARCH - APRIL 10¢

CISCO KID



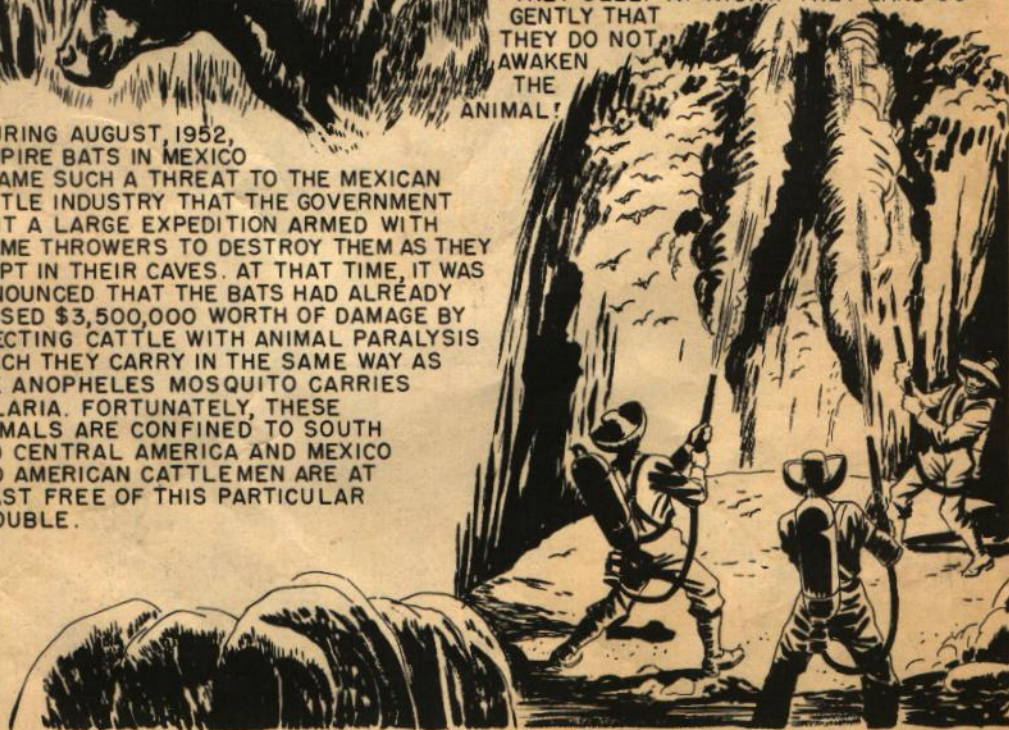
the VAMPIRE BAT.....

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MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW THAT THE VAMPIRE BAT ACTUALLY EXISTS. THEY ARE QUITE SMALL, ONLY ABOUT THREE INCHES IN LENGTH, AND HAVE REDDISH-BROWN FUR. THEY FEED BY SUCKING BLOOD FROM LARGE LIVING ANIMALS AND ACCOMPLISH THIS SEEMINGLY IMPOSSIBLE FEAT BY ALIGHTING ON THEM AS THEY SLEEP AT NIGHT. THEY LAND SO GENTLY THAT THEY DO NOT AWAKEN THE ANIMAL!

DURING AUGUST, 1952, VAMPIRE BATS IN MEXICO BECAME SUCH A THREAT TO THE MEXICAN CATTLE INDUSTRY THAT THE GOVERNMENT SENT A LARGE EXPEDITION ARMED WITH FLAME THROWERS TO DESTROY THEM AS THEY SLEPT IN THEIR CAVES. AT THAT TIME, IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE BATS HAD ALREADY CAUSED \$3,500,000 WORTH OF DAMAGE BY INFECTING CATTLE WITH ANIMAL PARALYSIS WHICH THEY CARRY IN THE SAME WAY AS THE ANOPHELES MOSQUITO CARRIES MALARIA. FORTUNATELY, THESE ANIMALS ARE CONFINED TO SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA AND MEXICO AND AMERICAN CATTLEMEN ARE AT LEAST FREE OF THIS PARTICULAR TROUBLE.



THE CISCO KID

IN ORETOWN MASQUERADE

WELL, PANCHO!
WHICH TRAIL
SHALL WE TAKE?

IT MAKES TO PANCHO NO
NEVER MIND! SO LONG AS
HE CAN GET FOOD. AND
SLEEP AND THE BATH!

MUD CREEK
8 MILES

ORETOWN
5 MILES



IT IS HEADS,
PANCHITO! WE GO
TO ORETOWN!

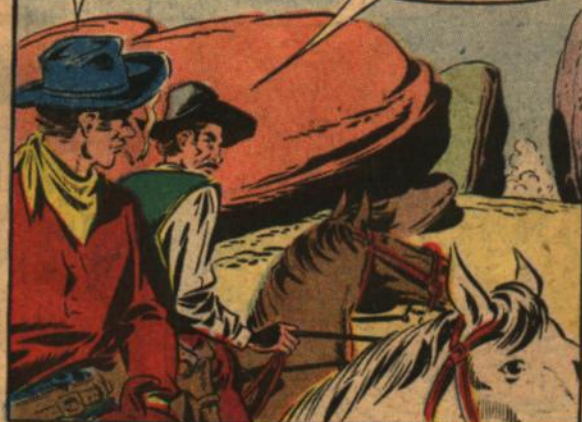


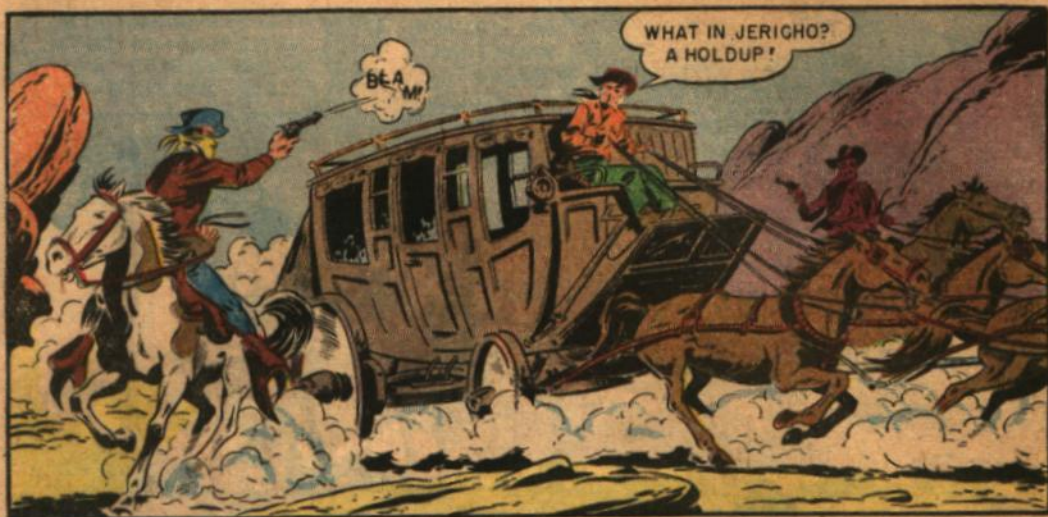
MEANWHILE, ON ANOTHER ROAD
TO ORETOWN



DUST CLOUD ROLLIN'
THIS WAY, BUCK!

MUST BE THE
STAGE! LET'S MOVE!





WHAT IN JERICO?
A HOLDUP!

BEA



PULL UP, MISTER! THEN
THROW DOWN YOUR
GUN AN' REACH!

OKAY! BUT YOU
ARE GONNA BE
DISAPPOINTED!
AIN'T NOTHIN'
WORTH STEALIN'
ON THIS STAGE!



IT'S THE STAGE WE
WANT! CLIMB DOWN!
BUCK, ROUT OUT THE
PASSENGERS!

THERE'S ONLY ONE!
AN' YOU'RE LOGO TO
STEAL THIS STAGE!
IT'LL BE SPOTTED---

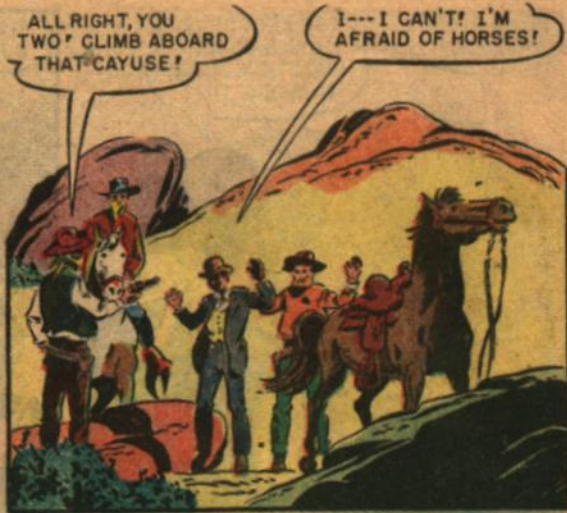


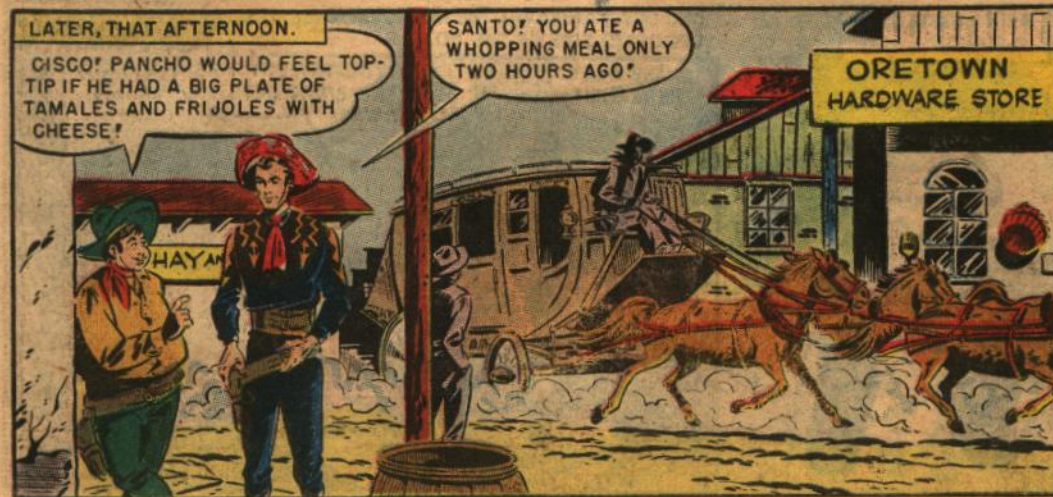
SHUT UP! OR I'LL
CLOSE YOUR
MOUTH PERMANENT!

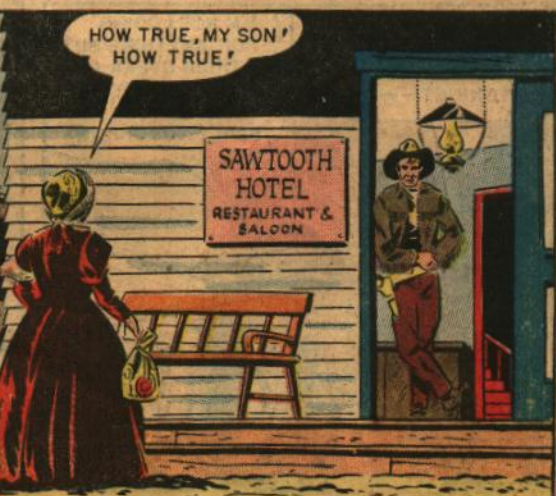


PLEASE DON'T SHOOT ME!
I HAVEN'T MUCH MONEY
BUT MY WATCH IS SOLID
GOLD AND---

WE AIN'T INTERESTED IN
YOUR CASH OR YOUR
WATCH--- OR YOUR
CONVERSATION! BUT IF
YOU'RE WEARIN' A GUN...









WHY DO YOU
SGOWL, PANCHO?
IS SOMETHING
WRONG?

NO! BUT THAT SEÑORA'S
VOICE! IT GIVES PANCHO THE
SHIVERS! IT SOUNDS
LIKE THE SQUEAKING MOUSE!

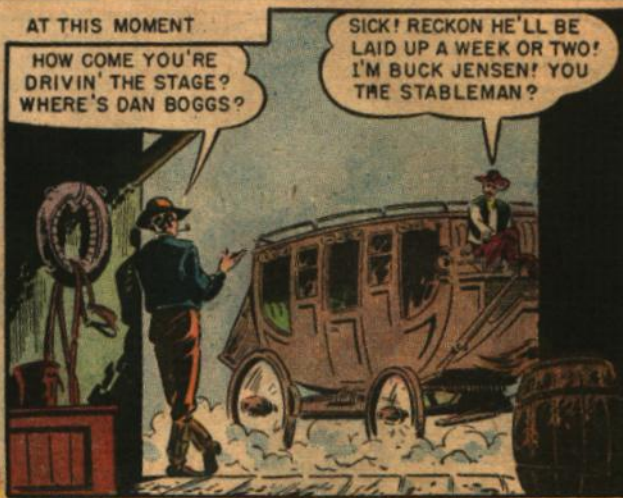


AND YOU SOUND LIKE
A CANTANKEROUS
CURMUDGEON! I'LL
SEE YOU LATER!

?



CURTANKEROUS CANTAMUDGEON?
SUCH TALK AS CISCO FILLS THE
AIR WITH SOMETIMES! IT GIVES
PANCHO THE HEADACHE!



AT THIS MOMENT
HOW COME YOU'RE
DRIVIN' THE STAGE?
WHERE'S DAN BOGGS?

SICK! RECKON HE'LL BE
LAID UP A WEEK OR TWO!
I'M BUCK JENSEN! YOU
THE STABLEMAN?



YEAH! NAME'S IRA HILL!
AN' IF YOU'RE LOOKIN'
FOR EXCITEMENT
TONIGHT---

I'M NOT LOOKIN'
FOR ANYTHING BUT
A THICK STEAK AN'
PLENTY O' SHUT-EYE!
WE'RE PULLIN' OUT
EARLY TOMORROW!

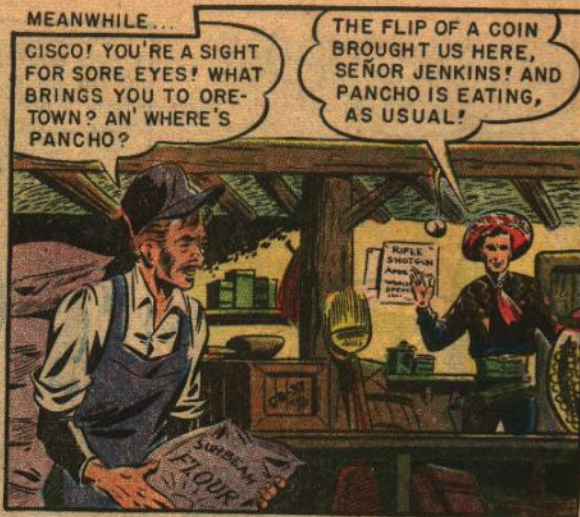


SAY! ISN'T THAT
DAN'S MALETA?

YEP! I---UH---
BORROWED IT! NO SENSE
BUYIN' ONE SEEM' AS
HOW I WON'T BE
DRIVIN' REGULAR!



FUNNY! DAN'S AWFUL FINICKY ABOUT THAT MALETA! WOULDN'T EVEN LET ME TOUCH IT!



MEANWHILE...

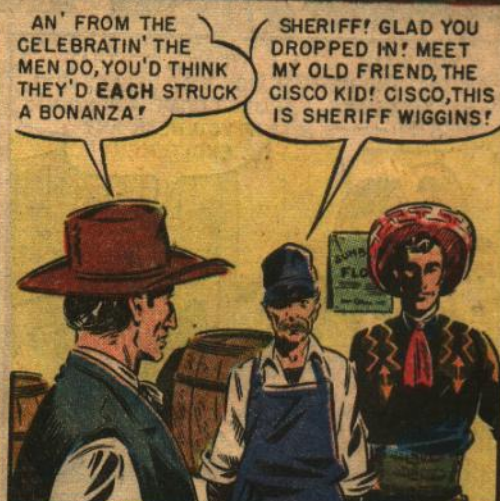
CISCO! YOU'RE A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES! WHAT BRINGS YOU TO ORE-TOWN? AN' WHERE'S PANCHO?

THE FLIP OF A COIN BROUGHT US HERE, SEÑOR JENKINS! AND PANCHO IS EATING, AS USUAL!



SANTO! YOU HAVE ENOUGH STOCK HERE FOR THREE STORES!

IT WON'T LAST LONG AFTER THE MINERS GET PAID TOMORROW! THE AMOUNT O' STUFF THEIR WOMENFOLKS BUY, YOU'D THINK EACH FAMILY HAD AT LEAST EIGHT KIDS!



AN' FROM THE CELEBRATIN' THE MEN DO, YOU'D THINK THEY'D EACH STRUCK A BONANZA!

SHERIFF! GLAD YOU DROPPED IN! MEET MY OLD FRIEND, THE CISCO KID! CISCO, THIS IS SHERIFF WIGGINS!



RIGHT PROUD TO KNOW YOU, CISCO! I HEARD A LOT ABOUT YOU FROM MY COUSIN, JOE TAYLOR! HE'S THE SHERIFF OVER IN GOLD WASH!

AND A GOOD ONE, TOO! I'VE WORKED ON SEVERAL CASES WITH HIM!



HOPE YOU'LL LEND ME A HAND IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TONIGHT!

TONIGHT? ARE YOU EXPECTING TROUBLE?

N-NO... BUT I'M ALWAYS
UNEASY WHEN THE BANK'S
LOADED WITH CASH FOR
THE MINE PAYROLLS!



LAND SAKES, SHERIFF' WITH A
GUARD POSTED FRONT AN' BACK
O' THE BANK, NOBODY'D EVEN
TRY TO BUST IN'



MAYBE NOT' BUT, LIKE
ALWAYS, I'LL BE
SLEEPIN' WITH ONE
EAR OPEN!

IF YOU WANT
PANGHO AND ME TO
STAND GUARD,
SHERIFF---

THANKS, BUT THAT
WON'T BE NECESSARY!
JUST COME A-RUNNIN'
IF YOU HEAR ANY
EXCITEMENT!



2 A.M.

WAIT HERE, TIM! I'LL
BE BACK SOON AS WE
TAKE CARE O' THE
GUARD OUT FRONT!

OKAY!



THAT LIGHT OVER
THERE! IT'S IN THE
SHERIFF'S OFFICE!

IT'S A NIGHT LIGHT! THE SHERIFF'S
POUNDIN' HIS EAR! I CHECKED!
GET SET! THE GUARD'LL BE HEADIN'
BACK THIS WAY IN A MINUTE!



WHAT THE
DICKENS?

OOH!





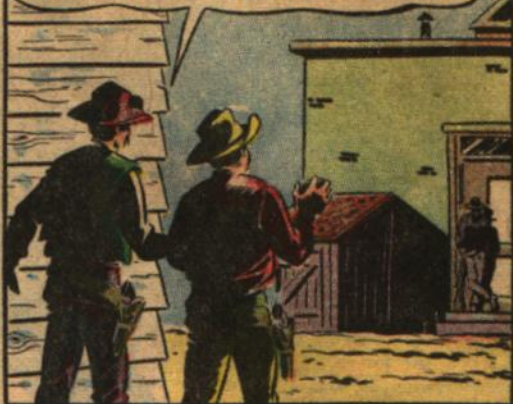
TWO MINUTES LATER...

EVERYTHING
OKAY, BUCK?

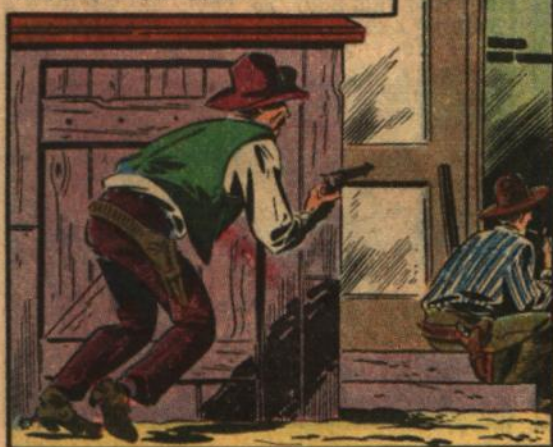
WENT OFF LIKE
CLOCKWORK, TIM!
C'M ON! LET'S SEE IF WE
CAN PUT THE REAR GUARD
OUT OF BUSINESS AS
EASILY!



HOLD IT, TIM! I'LL CIRCLE AROUND AN' COME
UP ON THE FAR SIDE O' THE TOOL SHED! WHEN
YOU HEAR THE SIGNAL, TRY AN' TOSS THAT
ROCK SO IT'LL LAND ON THE NEAR SIDE!



SILENT AS A SHADOW, BUCK STEALS
AROUND THE SHED...



THEN IMITATES A SLEEPY BIRD...



TIM ACTS QUICKLY...







SENSITIZING HIS FINGERTIPS BY RUBBING THEM WITH SANDPAPER...



TIM GOES TO WORK ON THE SAFE



AND IN LESS THAN THREE MINUTES.



HE SPOTTED IT! HE'S
HEADIN' FOR THE ALLEY!



THOSE MONEYBAGS LOOK
MIGHTY GOOD TO ME!

THERE'S FOUR MORE
INSIDE! THIS IS A
REAL HAUL!



FIVE MINUTES LATER...

TIM! WHAT IN BLAZES'RE
YOU DOIN'?

LOCKIN' THE
SAFE AGAIN!
THE LONGER WE
KEEP 'EM FROM
DISCOVERIN' THE
ROBBERY, THE BETTER
FOR US!



GO AHEAD! I'LL BOLT THE DOOR
AN' COME OUT THE SAME WAY
I CAME IN!



ZOWIE! THESE
ARE HEAVY!

QUIT GRUMBLIN', AN' HEAD
FOR THE STAGE! IT'S ALONG-
SIDE THE HOTEL BARN! BE
QUIET! THE STABLEMAN
SLEEPS IN THE BACK ROOM!



THE NEXT MORNING...

AH, CISCO! SUCH A
BEAUTIFUL DAY! SUCH
A FINE BREAKFAST!
PANCHE IS SITTING
ON TOP OF THE
WORLD!

IF YOU PUT ON
MUCH MORE
WEIGHT, ONLY
THE WORLD WILL
BE ABLE TO
HOLD YOU!







SANTO! NO HOMBRE
COULD CARRY SO MUCH
DINERO ALL BY
HIMSELF!

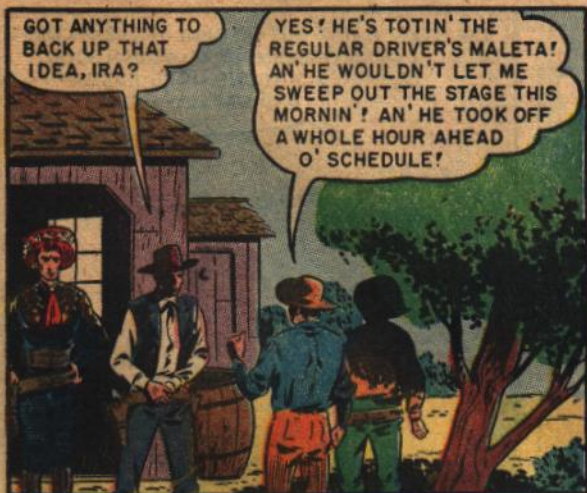
RIGHT, PANCHO?
THERE MUST HAVE
BEEN AT LEAST
TWO— —

SHERIFF!
WAIT!



TALK FAST, IRA! I'M
MIGHTY BUSY! GOT
A ROBBERY TO
SOLVE!

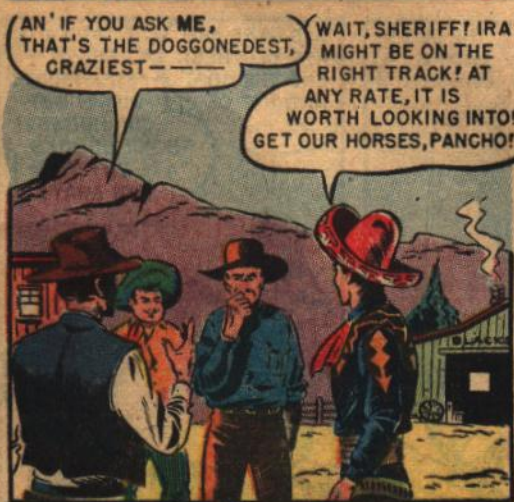
I KNOW! AN' I'VE
GOT A DURNED GOOD
IDEA WHO THE CROOK
IS— — — THAT NEW
STAGE DRIVER!



GOT ANYTHING TO
BACK UP THAT
IDEA, IRA?

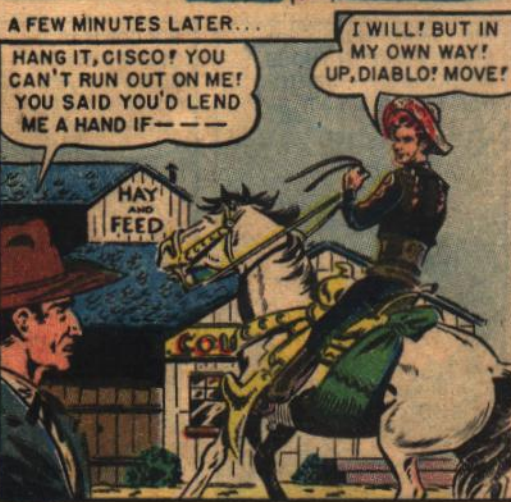
YES! HE'S TOTIN' THE
REGULAR DRIVER'S MALETA!
AN' HE WOULDN'T LET ME
SWEEP OUT THE STAGE THIS
MORNIN'! AN' HE TOOK OFF
A WHOLE HOUR AHEAD
O' SCHEDULE!

WITH THE SAME TWO PASSENGERS HE
HAD YESTERDAY! THAT OLD LADY AND THE
MAN IN THE LONG COAT AND HIGH HAT! IF
YOU ASK ME, THEY'RE ALL IN IT! THEY
WERE THE ONLY STRANGERS IN TOWN
LAST NIGHT!



AN' IF YOU ASK ME,
THAT'S THE DOGGONEDEST,
CRAZIEST— — —

WAIT, SHERIFF! IRA
MIGHT BE ON THE
RIGHT TRACK! AT
ANY RATE, IT IS
WORTH LOOKING INTO!
GET OUR HORSES, PANCHO!



A FEW MINUTES LATER...

HANG IT, CISCO! YOU
CAN'T RUN OUT ON ME!
YOU SAID YOU'D LEND
ME A HAND IF— — —

I WILL! BUT IN
MY OWN WAY!
UP, DIABLO! MOVE!

AFTER AN HOUR'S RIDING

SEÑOR! HOW LONG AGO DID THE STAGE FROM ORETOWN PASS BY?

IT DIDN'T!
FUNNY, TOO!
NEVER KNEW IT
TO BE LATE
BEFORE--- NOT IN
THE THREE YEARS
IT'S BEEN RUNNIN'!



WHAT DO WE
DO NOW, CISCO?

BACKTRACK SLOWLY, AND
KEEP A SHARP WATCHOUT
FOR TRACKS LEAVING THE
ROAD--- SOMETHING WE
SHOULD HAVE DONE ON
THE WAY OUT!



FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES, THEY RIDE SLOWLY,
SILENTLY... AND THEN...

CISCO! LOOK!
WHEEL TRACKINGS!

LEADING UP THAT
HILL! LET US
HURRY!



THE STAGE!

BUT NO SIGN OF THE CROOKS!
DISMOUNT! WE CAN SCOUT
AROUND MORE EASILY---
AND SAFELY--- ON FOOT!



NOT MUCH USE
LOOKING UP IN THOSE
ROCKS FOR--- SANTO!
WHAT IN BLAZES?



HOHO! IT IS
ONLY PANTO!
HOW YOU LIKE
HIS NEW HAT
ANYWAYS?



THE OLD
LADY'S
BONNET!

AND HERE ARE
HER CLOTHES!
AND THE COAT
AND HAT OF
THE ---

AND A
FRESH
FOOTPRINT!
QUICK! GET
OUR HORSES!
THOSE CROOKS
ARE NOT TOO
FAR AWAY!



A FEW MINUTES LATER...

HOLD IT, PANTHO!
I HEAR VOICES
BEYOND THOSE
ROCKS!

PANTHO HEAR
THEM, TOO!



MADRE MIA! IT IS THE
WHOLE CABOODLE
AND KIT!

EVEN THE BANK
CASH! COME ON,
LET'S CLOSE IN!



AT THAT SECOND

WE'VE GOT COMPANY,
BOYS! ROLL YOUR
GUNS!



PANTHO WILL ROLL
YOU IN THE DIRT,
MISTER OWLHOOT!

OWW!
MY ARM!



THOSE BIRDS'RE
TOO GOOD! I'M
DUSTIN'!

ME, TOO! BUT I'M
TAKIN' ONE O'
THESE ALONG!



TAKE CHARGE OF THINGS,
PANTHO! I WILL GET
THAT PAIR!



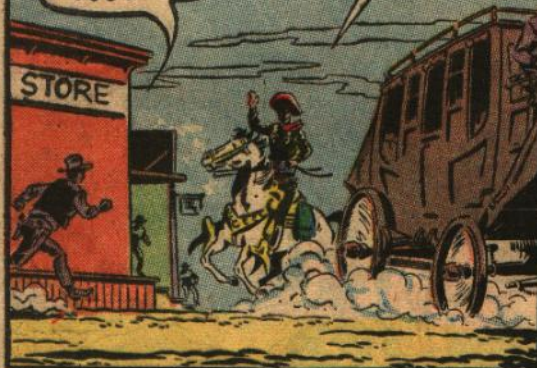
CHANGING OUT A HUGE LOOP, CISCO HURLS IT UNERRINGLY AND...



LATER...

GISCO! THE BANK CASH?
THE ROBBERS? DID
YOU FIND THEM,
TOO?

JUST A MINUTE,
I WILL SHOW YOU,
SHERIFF!



THERE THEY ARE!
FOUR UNHAPPY
HOMBRES! AND
ALL THE MONEY
THEY STOLE!

IT'S AMAZING!
HOW DID YOU
DO IT?



IT WAS EASY, SEÑOR
SHERIFF! WE THINK WHERE
WE WOULD GO IF WE WERE
OWLHOOTS--- AND
THERE WE GO AND---

STOP CLOWNING,
PANCIO! YOU
KNOW IT WAS IRA
HERE WHO PUT US
ON THE RIGHT
TRACK!



SI! BUT IT WAS THE COIN
GISCO FLOPPED THAT BROUGHT
US TO THE RIGHT PLACE IN
THE FIRST PLACE!



THE CISCO KID

AND THE LUCKY STRING



SANTO! BUT
I AM BORED!

CISCO! SUCH FOOLISHMENTS!
A BOARD DOES NOT RIDE---
OR SHOOT---OR SMILE
AT THE SEÑORITAS!
SO HOW---



I DID NOT MEAN I WAS
A PIECE OF WOOD,
PANCHO! BUT THAT I
FIND LIFE HUMDRUM!
NOTHING EXCITING HAS
HAPPENED IN DAYS!

IT WILL
NOW!...



ALWAYS WHEN CISCO
WISHES FOR THE
EXCITEMENTS, WE
GET TWO HELPINGS
AT ONCE!

THAT IS A
LOT OF
NONSENSE!



NONSENSES, EH? OR
MAYBE PANCHO IS
NOT HEARING
GUNSHOTS?

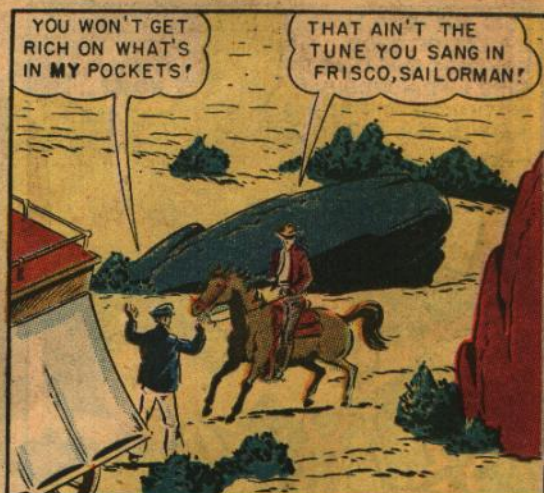
THIS IS NO
TIME FOR
JOKING! JINGLE
YOUR SPURS!

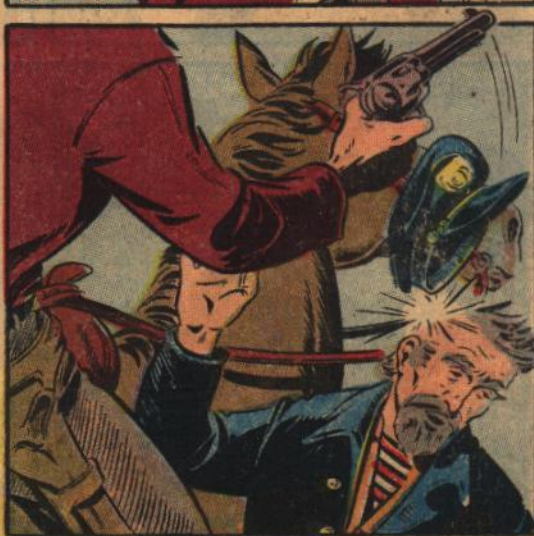
BLAM!
BANG!



YOU SEE THE
POTSHOOTERS?

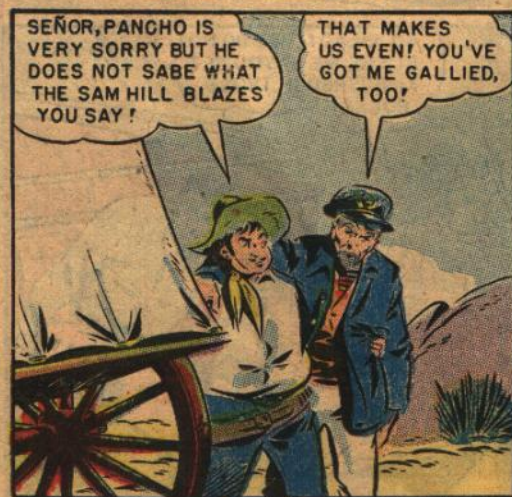
NO! BUT THE
SHOOTING IS GOING
ON BEYOND THAT
RISE! HURRY!

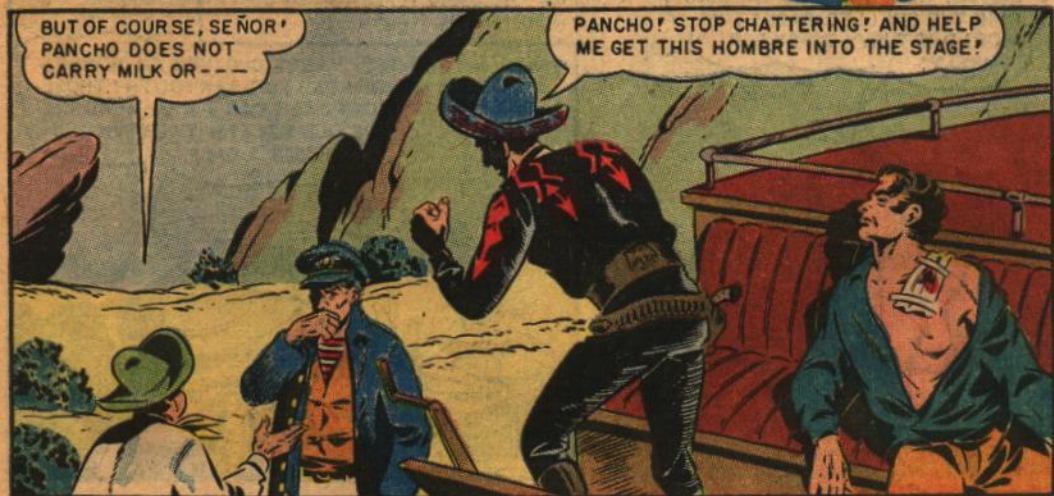














BLOW ME DOWN!
ARE YOU REALLY
THE CISCO KID?

SI! NOW--- IF YOU
WILL CLIMB IN AND
KEEP AN EYE ON
THE DRIVER, WE
WILL GET
STARTED!



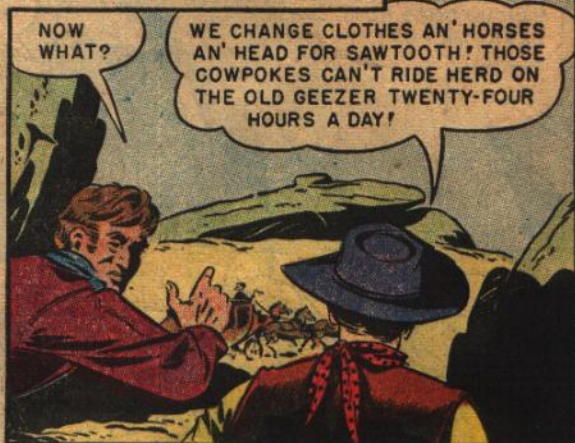
ALL SNUG BELOW!
UP ANCHOR, MATEY!

AYE, AYE,
SIR!



SANTO! NOW CISCO IS TALKING
LIKE THE SHELLED-BACK! THE
WORLD IS TURVY-TOPSY FOR
SURELY!

AT THE SAME TIME, HIDDEN
AMONG THE ROCKS...



NOW
WHAT?

WE CHANGE CLOTHES AN' HORSES
AN' HEAD FOR SAWTOOTH! THOSE
COWPOKES CAN'T RIDE HERD ON
THE OLD GEEZER TWENTY-FOUR
HOURS A DAY!



WONDER IF
HE TOLD 'EM
WHAT HE'S
PACKIN'?

PROB'LY NOT! AFTER
YOU SPILLIN' WE
WERE WISE, HE'LL
MAKE SURE TO KEEP
HIS LIP BUTTONE!

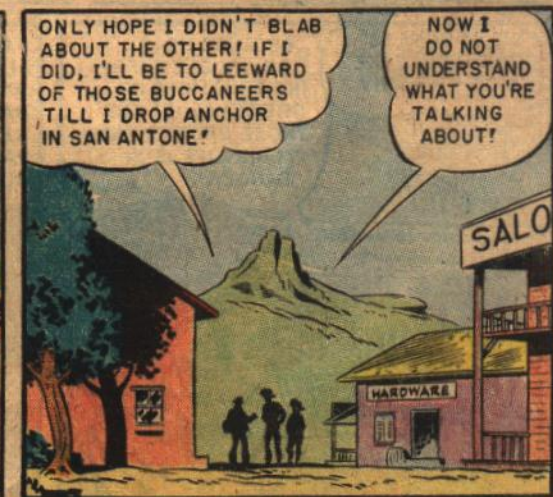
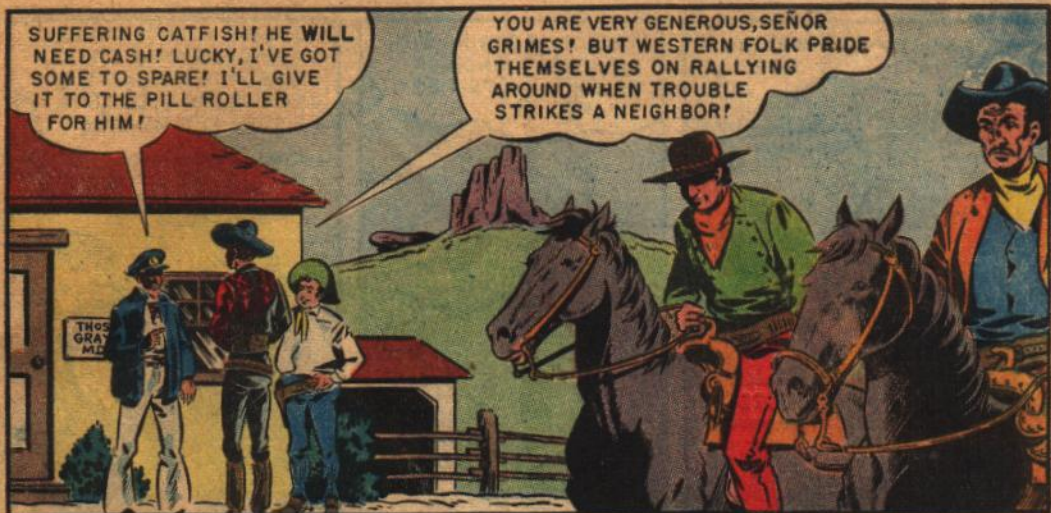


LATER, IN SAWTOOTH

AHA! CISCO SMILES!
THE DRIVER WILL
BE OKAY, EH?

SI! BUT NOT OVER-
NIGHT! HE WILL BE
LAID UP FOR SEVERAL
WEEKS! IT WILL BE
ROUGH ON HIS FAMILY! DOC-
TOR GRAY SAYS HE HAS
FOUR CHILDREN!

THOS
GRAY
M.D.







AS CISCO HEADS FOR THE LOBBY



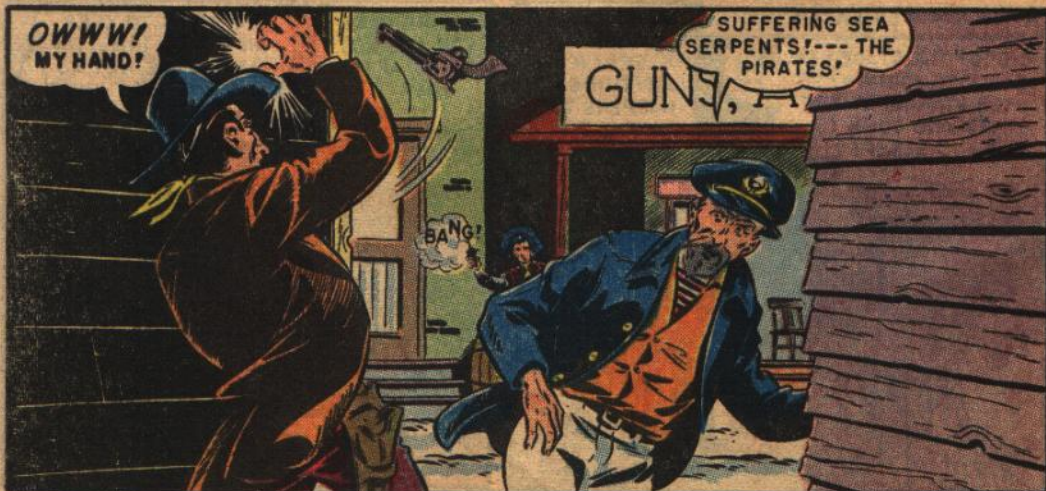
AT THIS MOMENT CISCO STEPS OUT OF THE HOTEL



SPOTS WHITEY



AND SIMULTANEOUSLY THE GLINT OF STEEL--- A MENACING SHADOW



GET MOVIN', SQUINT!
I'LL HOLD HIM OFF!



NO USE TRYING TO TRAIL
THEM IN THE DARK!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT,
WHITEY?



AVE! THANKS
TO YOUR SHOOT-
ING! DID YOU
JUST HAPPEN
TO DRIFT ALONG
OR ---

NO! I HAD A HUNCH SO ---
OH --- OH! THOSE SHOTS
RAISED THE TOWN! WE
MUST MOVE FAST UNLESS
YOU WANT TO FACE A
LOT OF QUESTIONS!

I DON'T!
SHOVE OFF!



SANTO! SUCH A
BUBHUB! AND
NOWHERE IS
CISCO! OR ---

HEY, MISTER!
BETTER GET YOUR
PANTS ON AFORE
YOU CATCH COLD!



TO THE SAM HILL BLAZES
WITH THE PANTS! WHAT
PANTHO MUST PUT ON
IS HIS GUN!

CISCO! SEÑOR WHITEY!
WHERE --- WHO (PUFF!)
THOSE GUNSHOTS!
YOU ARE OKAY?

SI! I REACHED THE
STREET JUST IN TIME
TO SAVE WHITEY
ANOTHER HEADACHE!



AFTER PANTO HEARS THE STORY...

SANTO! THOSE
HOMBRES ARE
STICKING CLOSE TO
THE TRAIL LIKE THE
WALL TO THE PAPER,
SEÑOR WHITEY!

AYE! BUT THE SAN
ANTONE STAGE
CARRIES TWO
GUARDS! I'LL
BE SAFE ONCE
I'M ABOARD IT!



YOU WILL BE SAFE
UNTIL THEN, TOO! I
WILL SEE TO THAT!
I WILL STAND
GUARD AND ---

LIKE BLAZES!
I'LL BE OKAY
LOCKED IN
MY ROOM!



VERY WELL! IF YOU
WILL PROMISE NOT TO
OPEN THE DOOR
UNTIL I COME FOR
YOU AT SUNUP!

AGREED!



AN HOUR BEFORE SUNUP

I HOPE
THIS WORKS!

IT'S GOT TO! IT'S OUR
LAST CHANCE! GO AHEAD
AN' KNOCK! I'LL TALK SO
HE'LL THINK IT'S CISCO!



SEÑOR! OPEN
THE DOOR! IT
IS CISCO!

BE RIGHT
THERE!

KNOCK!
KNOCK!



ONE PEEP AN'
YOU'RE A GONER!
BACK INSIDE!
FAST!

UH?



AN HOUR LATER

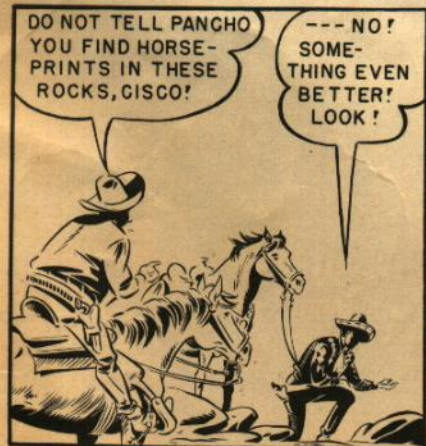
SEÑOR WHITEY
SLEEPS LIKE THE
LOG! THREE TIMES
YOU KNOCK AND
NO ANSWER!

IT IS
STRANGE!
I WONDER





FOR TWO MILES, THE TRAIL IS PLAIN. THEN...



FOUR STRING CLUES LATER...

LOOK, CISGO! THAT IS SMOKE FROM A CAMPFIRE, NO?

YES! PULL UP! WE WILL GO AHEAD ON FOOT! YOU TO THE RIGHT---I TO THE LEFT!



TALK, GRIMES! OR TEX'LL LAY THAT ROPE ACROSS YOUR FACE!

BEFORE I'LL OPEN MY TRAP, HE CAN WRAP IT AROUND MY NECK AND TIE A KNOT IN IT!



THAT IS WHAT THE LAW WILL DO TO HIM---AND HIS PARTNER! REACH, YOU COYOTES!

AND PRONTO! PANCHO'S FINGER SHAKES ON THE TRIGGER!



LATER, IN TOWN...

SHIVER MY TIMBERS IF I KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU FOR SAVING MY LIFE AND FORTUNE!

YOUR LUCKY STRING REALLY DID THE SAVING! BUT WHAT IS THIS FORTUNE?



HURRIEDLY, WHITEY UNSCREWS A BUTTON ON HIS JACKET AND...

SANTO! A PEARL!

FROM THE SOUTH SEAS! EACH BUTTON ON THIS JACKET'S GOT ONE IN IT! FIGURED THEY'D KEEP ME FROM DYING BROKE!

SWAB PANCHO FOR THE BARNACLE! FINALLY HE SABS WHAT THE SHIVERING TIMBERS SEÑOR WHITEY SAYS!



OH, PANCHO! YOU ARE IRREPRESSIBLE!

HO! HO! YOU ARE SMART, TOO, CISGO!

